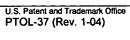
	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
(V			
Notice of Allowability	10/774,988 Examiner	GEISLHARDT, ALAN C. Art Unit	
			·
	Christopher Boswell	3676	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appear All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT R	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this apport or other appropriate communication IGHTS. This application is subject to	plication. If not included will be mailed in due course.	THIS initiative
1. \boxtimes This communication is responsive to <u>the amendment filed</u>	<u>December 20, 2004</u> .		
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-6,8-12,14-17 and 19</u> .			:
3. The drawings filed on <u>07 February 2004</u> are accepted by the	he Examiner.		
 4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unalled all blooms a) ☐ All blooms b) ☐ Some* close of the priority documents have 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have 	e been received.		
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have			
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority do	cuments have been received in this	national stage application from	n tne
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).			
* Certified copies not received:			
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONN THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.	of this communication to file a reply MENT of this application.	complying with the requireme	nts
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subminformal PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give			OF
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must	st be submitted.		
(a) I including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers	son's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-	948) attached	
1) 🗌 hereto or 2) 🔲 to Paper No./Mail Date			
(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner' Paper No./Mail Date	s Amendment / Comment or in the C	Office action of	
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1 each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in t			of 🍨
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT			•
		,	
Attachment(s) 1. ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. Notice of Informal F	Patent Application (PTO-152)	
2. \square Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	6. Interview Summary		
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date	Paper No./Mail Da 08), 7. ☐ Examiner's Amenda		
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit	8. 🛛 Examiner's Stateme	ent of Reasons for Allowance	,
of Biological Material	9. Other		_



Application/Control Number: 10/774,988

Art Unit: 3676

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-6, 8-12, 14-17, and 19 are allowed. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The claims are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that of a method for latching a door by moving a handle axially to remove a locking portion of the handle from an extension slot in a handle latch, and pivoting the handle to remove the locking portion from an extension passage of the handle latch, as in claims 1 and 8, and radially biasing the handle radially so that the locking portion is retained in the handle latch extension passage, as in claim 14.

The closest prior art of record, U.S. Patent Number 3,583,738 to Uphoff, discloses a latch pivotally retaining a handle, attaching a handle latch to a mounting surface adjacent a door, moving the handle axially to remove it from an extension slot in the handle latch, and pivoting the handle to unlatch the door. However, Uphoff does not disclose the handle latch having both an extension slot and an extension passage, as well as biasing the handle such that the handle is retained in the handle latch.

U.S. Patent Number 2,529,009 to Foss discloses a latch having a handle that is biased so that the latching portion is retained in a handle latch, where the handle moves axially to remove it from a portion of the handle latch, and pivoted to disengage the handle latch. However, Foss does not disclose the handle latch having an extension slot leading to an extension passage.

Application/Control Number: 10/774,988

Art Unit: 3676

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following patents are cited to further show the state of the art with respect to latching assemblies with rigid operating means:

U.S. Patent Number 6,003,908 to King, U.S. Patent Number 5,275,029 to Myers, U.S. Patent Number 4,494,781 to Lafosse.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christopher Boswell whose telephone number is (571) 272-7087. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30 - 5:00 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P. Stodola can be reached on (571) 272-7087. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Application/Control Number: 10/774,988

Art Unit: 3676

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

CJB (3) March 4, 2005

DANIEL P. STODOLA SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

Samel P Stodola